

[22 March, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

the contents of different schemes and aim for all-round development of agriculture.

Agricultural Loans to Farmers

2901. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed for sanctioning agricultural loans to the farmers during the last two years;

(b) whether the target has been fulfilled; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) The targets fixed for sanctioning agricultural loans to the farmers for agriculture and allied activities during 1998-99 and 1999-2000 were Rs. 40,569 crores and Rs. 47,060 crores respectively.

(b) The disbursement of credit by Cooperative Banks, Regional Rural Banks and Commercial Banks for agriculture and allied activities during the last two years, i.e. 1998-99 and 1999-2000 were Rs. 36,708 crores and Rs. 44,612 crores which constitutes 91% and 95% of the targets respectively.

(c) The main reasons for not achieving the targets were the weak cooperative credit structure in some of the States, low level of recoveries and inadequate infrastructural facilities resulting in less credit absorption capacity.

Agricultural Productivity

†2902. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that per hectare productivity of agriculture

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.